

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

EXECUTIVE ORDER

* * * * *

CRYPTOGRAPHIC SECURITY WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN
COMMUNICATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Statutes as President of the United States, and as Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, in order to promote the inviolability of certain Federal communications which affect the national security and interest and in order to promote, through the establishment and enforcement of high and uniform security standards, the inviolability of the cryptographic systems and related procedures utilized to maintain the privacy of such communications, it is hereby ordered as follows:

1. There is hereby created a Cryptographic Security Board (hereinafter referred to as the board), consisting of the Secretary of State, as chairman of the board, and the Secretaries of War and the Navy. The board is charged with the responsibility for the efficient coordination and supervision of all cryptographic systems and related procedures of the Federal departments and agencies. The functions of the board shall be, with the requirements of national security and defense as a primary consideration: (a) to study the cryptographic systems and related procedures of the various Federal departments and agencies, and make periodic inspections and surveys thereof; (b) to determine and establish such cryptographic security standards and policies as will achieve the maximum of security of governmental communications; and (c) to promulgate such directives as may be necessary to implement those standards and policies.

2. The board shall establish a Cryptographic Security Coordinating Committee, consisting of three members, one appointed by the Secretary of State, one an officer appointed by the Secretary of War, and one an officer appointed by the Secretary of the Navy. Such other personnel as may be required to assist the board or the committee in the performance of their functions, may be detailed from those departments in accordance with law. The committee shall perform such of the functions of the board as the board shall direct. The board shall appoint such other committees as may be necessary to carry out its functions. Except as otherwise instructed by the board, committees appointed thereby shall have no power to make final disposition of any matter presented to them by the board for study, but they shall express by written report their findings and recommendations to the board via the Cryptographic Security Coordinating Committee.

Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 06-13-2012 pursuant to E.O. 13526

6
Enclosure with USCIB SECCOM Special Report no. 9-49.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

3. The board and the committees shall call for consultation such representatives of other government departments and agencies as may be deemed advisable in obtaining full knowledge of the cryptographic matter being studied under the provisions of this order, to the end that the needs of all may be considered and provided for insofar as possible. Other government agencies are directed to cooperate in providing assistance required by the board in its cryptographic studies and to comply with directives promulgated by or on behalf of the board dealing with the use and handling of cryptographic material inside the government establishment.

4. No department or agency shall be required to make available to the board, or to any committee of the board, for use by any other department or agency any cryptographic aid or device, the restricted or exclusive use of which it considers essential to the proper discharge of its duties in the national interest. Nor shall any department or agency be required to disclose to the board or to any of its committees the contents of any official communication concerning its activities if, in the opinion of the head of such department or agency, the disclosure would be contrary to the national interest.

5. The provisions of this order shall not apply to the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the Department of Justice.

6. This order is confidential and shall not be filed in the Division of the Federal Register of The National Archives, or published in the Federal Register, or be given other publicity, until publication thereof has been expressly authorized by the chairman of the board.

(Signed) HARRY S. TRUMAN

THE WHITE HOUSE,

July 3, 1945.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~